GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:383
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
Ban on Diesel Vehicles
Premachandran Shri N.K.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to ban diesel vehicles for the purpose of environmental protection and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the rate of air pollution by the diesel vehicles as compared to the other sources of air pollution, and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to handle the shortage of transport to public due to ban on diesel vehicles; and
(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a)No, Sir. However, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 13029 of 1985 in the matter of "M.C. Mehta versus Union of India & Others" has passed an order banning registration of SUVs and private cars of 2,000 cc and above capacity using diesel in the National Capital Region (NCR). The apex court on 4th July, 2016 has reserved its order on pleas for lifting its ban on registration of diesel cars with engine capacity of 2,000 cc and above in the NCR. Also, National Green Tribunal (NGT) vide directions dated 07.04.2015 in the matter of "Vardhman Kaushik versus Union of India & Others", restrained diesel vehicles older than 10 years from plying in Delhi.

(b)According to the studies carried out both nationally and internationally, diesel vehicles are known to emit more particulate matter and oxides of Nitrogen as compared to petrol vehicles. A recent study of Delhi Government has carried out load estimation of various pollutants from different categories of vehicles by IIT Kanpur. The emission inventory study has indicated that the vehicles emission account for about 20% of PM2.5 levels. It also concludes that there is a significant contribution of diesel vehicles to Particulate Matter in Delhi.

(c)& (d) Government of NCT of Delhi has taken various measures to improve the public transportation which inter alia include expansion of network of metro; procurement of additional semi low floor buses; mini buses and buses under cluster scheme; early completion of western and eastern peripheral expressway; promotion of e-rickshaws; car pooling system etc. The Central Pollution Control Board on December 29, 2015 has issued comprehensive directions under section 18 (1) (b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution), 1981 to the States/UT of NCR i.e. Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan for improvement of air quality including action for switching of public transport to CNG mode.